

Please amend Claim 13 to read as follows:

13. (Amended) Oligonucleotide, wherein it comprises 10 to 80 consecutive nucleotides from

- (i) a highly conserved region of the *pol* gene of HIV represented by one of the sequences shown in SEQ ID NO: 4, 5, 9 or 10,
- (ii) a corresponding region of another HI virus isolate,
- (iii) a corresponding region of a consensus sequence derived from several HI virus isolates or sequences which are complementary thereto, provided that it does not comprise the nucleotide sequence
CTACTACTCC TTGACTTTGG GGATTG (SEQ ID NO: 26)
or its complementary sequence.